



## ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

0310610010000  
Chicago/Acme Barrel Co  
MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 30, 1982

TO: Division File

FROM: Charles Gebien

SUBJECT: General - Cook County - Chicago/Acme Barrel

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



285928

On Thursday June 24, 1982, at approximately 3:30 p.m., I received a telephone call from Jeff Langley of IEPA Emergency Response Unit. Mr. Al Gedarates, P.C.O. - M.S.D., was also on the line during this conversation. They informed me that an uncontainerized sludge material was observed on the ground in a vacant lot located at 13th Street and Oakley Ave., Chicago, Ill. This material exhibited a strong solvent odor and Mr. Gedarates indicated that he believed that the source of the sludge may have been the Acme Barrel Co., located immediately adjacent to the vacant lot at 2300 W. 13th St., Chicago, Ill. 60608. Mr. Langley indicated that the vacant lot is also adjacent to a city play lot and that the dumped waste material may present hazard to the children who use the play lot. I informed Mr. Langley that I could visit the area within 40 minutes to investigate the incident. Mr. Gedaratis informed me that an MSD-PCO, would meet me at the scene.

I arrived at the scene at 4:10 p.m. and met with J. Kelly, MSD-PCO. He informed me that he collected a sample of the waste and requested a metals analysis. I collected a sample of the waste and requested an organics analysis. I made the following observations at the scene;

- The vacant lot is unfenced and contained approximately 20 cu. yards of waste semi-solid.
- The waste semi-solid exhibited a solvent odor and a neutral field Ph.
- The 13th Street play lot lays immediately east of the vacant lot and is not fenced on the western boundry. Children were playing in the lot (unsupervised).
- The Acme Barrel Co. is located west of the vacant lot, immediately across Oakley Ave.

At 4:30 p.m. Mr. Kelly and I visited the Acme Barrel facility and met with Mr. Robert Conway, V.P. We explained the situation to Mr. Conway, and explained that he had no knowledge of the incident, but promised that his company would clean it up. He suggested that the waste material may have spilled from a roll off box used to transport Acme's sludge waste. He suggested that the spilled material could be placed in a roll off box with Acme's regular waste sludges. Acme's sludge is disposed of at Chicago/Paxton and Chicago/Land and Lakes Ill. Such manifests were on file. He

further mentioned that the clean-up would be performed on Friday morning. I later contacted the Chicago Police (6:00 p.m.) and informed them of the situation.

I returned to the site on June 28, 1982 and observed that the material had been completely removed. Mr. Kelly was also present. I met with Mr. Conrad and informed him that a RCRA inspection would be conducted at the Acme facility in the near future. He informed me that the spilled sludge was placed in a roll off box with Acme's regular sludge waste stream.

CMG:prb

cc: Jeoff Langley (E.R.)  
Northern Region (2 copies)

mr

D025433

Time Collected: 4:15p  
Date Collected: 6/24/82

Lab #  
SPECIAL ANALYSIS FORM  
Date Received JUL 1 1982

X112 ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
DIVISION OF LAND/NOISE POLLUTION CONTROL  
COUNTY: COOK FILE HEADING: CHGO/ACME BARREL FILE NUMBER: GENERAL

SOURCE OF SAMPLE: (Exact Location) FROM PILE (SPILLAGE AREA)  
OF SEM-SOLID WASTE MATERIAL IN CENTRAL PORTION  
OF VACANT LOT AT 13th ST. AND OAKLEY

PHYSICAL OBSERVATIONS, REMARKS: SEM - SOLID. SOLVENT ODOR

TESTS REQUESTED: SOLVENTS, PCB's

COLLECTED BY: CHAS GEBIEN TRANSPORTED BY: CHAS GEBIEN  
LABORATORY

RECEIVED BY: YLP DATE COMPLETED: 9/30/82 DATE FORWARDED: 9/30/82  
J. Hurley

Trichloroethylene = 700. ug/g (PPM)  
Tetrachloroethylene = 260. ug/g  
Toluene = 8900 ug/g  
Xylenes = 5000 ug/g  
Cy-substituted benzenes = 1000. ug/g  
Naphthalene = 220. ug/g  
Aliphatic hydrocarbons = 15,000 ug/g  
PCBs < 0.1 ug/g

RECEIVED  
OCT -7 1982  
EPA-DLPC  
STATE OF ILLINOIS

H.W.